

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)	Before the Examiner
Thomas Zdeblick et al.)	Julian W. Woo
)	
Application Serial No. 10/644,252)	Group Art Unit 3731
)	
Filed August 20, 2003)	Ref. No. PC242.38/
)	4002-3378
)	
INTERBODY FUSION DEVICE AND)	July 13, 2004
METHOD FOR RESTORATION OF)	
NORMAL SPINAL ANATOMY)	

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

In response to the first Office Action dated May 18, 2004, please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks. Additionally, please provide any extensions of time necessary and charge any additional fees which may be necessary to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

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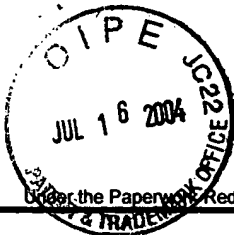
Signature

July 13, 2004

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INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 19-50 were pending in the subject application for the first Office Action. Claims 19, 26, 31, 32, 38-40, 44-46, 49 and 50 have been amended via this Response to the first Office Action. In view of the following amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are hereby requested.



Doc. No. 292495 WEMHH/SB/21 (6/04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/644,252
	Filing Date	August 20, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Thomas Zdeblick et al.
	Art Unit	3731
	Examiner Name	Julian W. Woo
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	4002-3378/PC242.38

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawings <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return Receipt Postcard
Remarks <input type="text"/>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or individual name	Brad A. Schepers, Reg. No. 45,431 Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty, McNett & Henry LLP
Signature	
Date	July 13, 2004

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Signature		Date	July 13, 2004

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